

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes the following change to the figures:

Figures 4A-8C, 10, 12, and 13, have been amended to provide adequate margins on all sides as shown.

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-25, and 27-32 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Claims 2, 10, 18, and 26 are canceled.

The drawings were objected to because several Figures did not have adequate margins. Figures 4A-8C, 10, 12, and 13, have been amended to provide adequate margins on all sides as shown. Accordingly, Applicants believe this objection has been overcome.

The Title was objected to as not being adequately descriptive. In response, a new Title has been submitted which more clearly describes the invention being claimed. Accordingly, Applicants believe this objection has been overcome.

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for not clearly identifying the relationship between the control station and the plurality of communications stations. In response, the claims have been amended to clarify this relationship in accordance with the steps shown in Figure 10. Specifically, the claims now recite “said control station sending the management information transmission region to said plurality of communication stations for use by said radio network to communicate using the defined transmission frame format.” (Claim 1; Claims 9, 17, and 25 contain similar limitations) Hence, Applicants believe this rejection has been overcome.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Murata (U.S. Patent 6,470,004). Claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murata in view of son Akerberg (U.S. Patent 6,061,343). However, the present invention uses:

a transmission frame format having a defined frame period and consisting of a management information transmission region and an information transmission region; wherein said management information transmission region consists of a fixed length down-link management section and a station synchronous section; said station synchronous section for identifying each communication station in the radio network and having a variable length corresponding to the number of communication stations in the radio network; ... wherein said information transmission region consists of a first information transmission region for transmitting information isochronously and a second information transmission region for transmitting other information asynchronously.

As shown in Figures 4A-4C, the present invention uses a frame format having a fixed frame period 45 for transmitting both isochronous data 47 and asynchronous data 48 and which can handle a variable number of communication (stations) devices identified in the station synchronous section 46.

By contrast, Murata discloses a frame format having variable length for transmitting only asynchronous data (ATM) to a variable number of network devices. The Examiner relies on Akerberg to meet the isochronous features of the present invention. However, Akerberg discloses separate transmissions of synchronous and asynchronous data on different frequencies. (Figure 2 shows the different frequency bands) Akerberg does not disclose or suggest transmitting synchronous and asynchronous data in the same data frame as required in the present invention. Accordingly, the combination of Murata and Akerberg fails to meet the “first information transmission region for transmitting information isochronously and a second information transmission region for transmitting other information asynchronously” portions of the transmission frame format defined by the present claims.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Murata and Akerberg fail to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

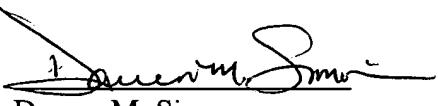
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

An extension-of-time fee is deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment. No additional fees are anticipated, but if such are required, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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